

# PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

GENERAL MEETINGS FOR SCIENTIFIC BUSINESS

OF THE

## ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON.

(January to April, 1909.)

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January 12, 1909.

Prof. J. ROSE BRADFORD, M.D., D.Sc., F.R.S., Vice-President,  
in the Chair.

The Secretary read the following report on the additions made to the Society's Menagerie during the month of December 1908:—

The number of registered additions to the Society's Menagerie during the month of December last was 57. Of these 36 were acquired by presentation, 8 by purchase, 7 were received on deposit, 2 by exchange, and 4 were born in the Gardens. The number of departures during the same period, by death and removals, was 212.

Amongst the additions special attention may be directed to:—

A Brown Bear (*Ursus arctos*), from Russia, presented by G. Cecil Whitaker, Esq., on December 8th.

Two Mole Rats (*Georychus hottentottus*), new to the collection, from Mashonaland, presented by J. folliott Darling, Esq., F.Z.S., on December 9th.

Two Labrador Jays (*Perisoreus atricapillus*), from Labrador, presented by the Rev. W. W. Perrett on December 14th.

One Yellow-billed Sheathbill (*Chionis alba*), from the Falkland Islands, presented by F. W. Tode, Esq., on December 14th.

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Dr. H. G. Plimmer, F.L.S., F.Z.S., Pathologist to the Society, exhibited the stomach of a Boa suffering from gastritis, and the  
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stomach and intestines of a Cobra suffering from gastro-enteritis, and made the following remarks:—

“These specimens are shown in order to call attention to the condition of inflammation of the stomach and intestines in snakes from the Society’s Collection. Out of 160 cases examined during the last year by far the larger number showed this condition in varying degrees; and that is after excluding those cases due to the direct irritation of worms which had caused ulceration or perforation.

“Of course there are many causes of inflammatory conditions of the stomach and intestines, but it would appear, from the large percentage of cases showing this condition, that there must be some common cause, and as the present method of feeding the snakes is an unphysiological one, it might be worth while to consider whether it may not be the cause of the large mortality from these inflammatory conditions of the alimentary tract.”

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The following papers were read:—

1. Observations on the Flagellates Parasitic in the Blood of Freshwater Fishes. By Prof. E. A. MINCHIN, M.A., V.P.Z.S.

[Received December 23, 1908.]

(Plates I.-V.\*)

*Introductory.*

The trypanosomes and trypanoplasms of freshwater fishes have been studied by a number of naturalists abroad, and have been the subject of several important memoirs, more especially by Laveran & Mesnil, Léger, and Brumpt in France, and by Keyselitz in Germany. In this country, however, little attention has been paid to them. I was therefore glad to avail myself of the exceptional opportunities offered by the Sutton Broad Laboratory, to study the parasites of the fishes in the Norfolk Broad. I desire to take this opportunity of expressing my warmest thanks to my friends Messrs. Eustace and Robert Gurney for their kindness in putting at my disposal the resources of their picturesque and well-equipped laboratory, and for much help during my stay there. I spent portions of my summer vacations at the laboratory, about three weeks in August and September 1907, and five weeks in the same months in 1908, and during these periods I occupied myself almost entirely with these parasites. Although I have only touched the fringe of the question so far, and there is still everything to be discovered and worked out concerning the all-important

\* For explanation of the Plates see p. 29.